

LINE COPY



January/February 2000 Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department



Lieutenant James J. Istvan, Station 11, A-Shift, (left) performs overhaul on a two-story single-family home located at 9113 Cherry Tree Drive in the Mount Vernon area on March 8, 2000. Firefighters marked on the scene with heavy fire showing from the first and second floors. Occupants of the home were alerted to the fire by a smoke detector.



Edward L. Stinnette

"We must ensure that we are always diligent in our size-up and are focused on our surroundings."

From The Fire Chief . . .

Two recent and very tragic events resulted in four firefighters losing their lives. One event occurred at a McDonalds restaurant in Houston, Texas, and the other at a house fire in Memphis, Tennessee.

At the McDonald's incident two members were involved in extinguishing a fire when a collapse claimed their lives. At the house fire in Memphis, two members were ambushed and shot to death as they arrived on the scene. This article is not meant to critique the way these two Departments carried out their mission in response to the 911 calls. Rather, as I reflect on these two incidents, and before all ongoing investigations are complete and all final reports published, there are at least two lessons to be learned.

First and foremost, these incidents reinforce something that we all know: there is no such thing as a "routine" call. How many kitchen fires have we responded to in fast food restaurants? How many house fires do we respond to on a daily basis? We responded to 77,699 calls in 1999. We must ensure that we are always diligent in our size-up and are focused on our surroundings. This responsibility rests with every member of the responding crew. We cannot afford to be complacent when doing our jobs. Clearly, I'm not saying that complacency or being unfocused were contributing factors in either one of these tragic incidents. However, the more alert we are to our surroundings and the activities relating to the emergency around us, the safer our operations will be. The safer our operations, the greater chance that everyone goes home at the end of their shift.

The other important lesson learned involves having keen observation skills. I

am not necessarily talking about being observant at the scene of an emergency, but instead knowing your co-worker. Because we work closely with each other on 24-hour shifts and often times spend a considerable amount of off-time with each other, we should be one of the first persons to recognize changes in our co-workers attitudes and behaviors. I'm not referring to someone who is having the proverbial bad day, but rather, someone who is dealing with stress that is affecting their behavior and job performance. We must recognize these signs and do whatever is necessary to help these members deal with their problems. We cannot enable or ignore these behavior or performance changes.

Recognizing the problem is half the battle. Solving the problem may require professional intervention, which is available and should be encouraged. There is no sadder commentary than to hear someone sitting around the coffee table saying, "I could have predicted something like this was going to happen" following one of these tragedies. As officers and leaders in this organization, we are responsible for the health, safety, and well-being of the members who work along side us. That responsibility and dedication goes beyond the scene of an emergency. We should recognize and be aware of the changes that take place around us and provide the direction and guidance to resolve and help our co-workers through tough and challenging problems. This article is not intended to second guess any of the actions of the Houston or Memphis Fire Departments, but instead, serves as a reminder that we must always keep our guard up no matter how "routine" the call. We should also take a look around us and make sure if we see someone who might need our help or intervention that they get it. ❖

Edward L. Stinnette, *Fire Chief*
 Dan Schmidt, *Editor*
 Jackie Lewis, *Production Editor*
 Scotty Boatright, *Staff Photographer*

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 Fairfax County
 Fire and Rescue Department
 4100 Chain Bridge Road
 Fairfax, Virginia 22030
 703-246-3801

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Special guests at the groundbreaking ceremony for Fire and Rescue Station 39 turn the first shovels of dirt to symbolically begin construction. Pictured from left to right: Morgan Snyder, Department of Public Works & Environmental Services; Jay Garvin, Taylor Garvin Associates, Inc. and Eddy & Eckhart Architects; John Palatiello, Planning Commissioner, Hunter Mill District; Supervisor Stuart Mendelsohn, Dranesville District; Chief Edward L. Stinnette; Chairman Katherine K. Hanley, Board of Supervisors; and Supervisor Catherine M. Hudgins, Hunter Mill District.

Fire and Rescue Station 39 (North Point), Under Construction

On Tuesday, February 29, 2000, Chief Edward L. Stinnette and guests symbolically turned over several shovels of dirt at the future site of Fire and Rescue Station 39. The station is being built at 1117 Reston Avenue.

The new facility will cost \$4.75 million and will be staffed by 33 personnel. The station will set on 3.5 acres and cover an area of 13,858 square feet with four bays. A rescue company, engine, and an advanced life support unit will be assigned to the station.

Several innovative features are being incorporated into the station design. Special features include a gear room equipped with a unique ventilation system that will constantly circulate air through the storage compartments to dry wet gear, a diesel exhaust removal system to extract exhaust fumes, and a fire protection sprinkler system.

The architect for the building design is Taylor Garvin Associates, Inc. and Eddy &

Eckhart Architects and the facility contractor is Falls Church Construction Company.

The project will be completed in the Spring of 2001. ♦

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Twenty-Second Annual Valor Awards

Silver Medal of Valor



Captain I
Robert C. Dube



Master Technician
Michael A. Istvan



Master Technician
Michael J. Stone



Master Technician
Jack L. Walmer



Technician
Evan J. Lewis



Technician
Rex E. Strickland



Technician
Joseph E. Knerr



Technician
Glenn A. Mason



Dr. Joseph Barbera



Dr. Anthony Macintyre

On September 20, 1999, Virginia Task Force One was activated to provide search and rescue services to the island of Taiwan that had been devastated by an earthquake, which resulted in over 2,000 deaths and thousands of injuries. Initial reports indicated scores of people were trapped in the rubble of many reinforced concrete structures.

After a lengthy 21-hour journey, the "Advance" team comprised of 15 personnel, arrived in Toului. After being briefed by local officials, the advance team was directed to an 18-story apartment building. The bottom four floors of the structure had "pancaked" causing the

remaining 14 floors to fall onto an adjoining structure. Within this structure, local officials had located a trapped victim who had been in his fourth-floor apartment when the earthquake struck. Unable to rescue this individual, local officials expected the Advance team to rescue him. By nature, the Advance team's primary objective is to survey the incident and make strategic and tactical decisions prior to the arrival of the main body of the task force. Therefore, they had very little of their own equipment available and relied upon local tools and equipment.

To reach the victim, personnel had to crawl

(continued on page 5)

approximately 20 feet into the structure and then 3-4 feet down into a small void area that locals had cleared. The patient was another four feet down in the rubble. He was found entangled in an assortment of brick, concrete, rebar, mattresses and bed framing with only his head and upper body visible.

During the rescue operation, the patient received IV fluids while personnel worked continuously using hand tools to free him. While removing debris from around the patient, rescue personnel endured three aftershocks. After each aftershock, the rescue team reentered the structure and continued their mission. After an exhausting 8-hour rescue, the patient was removed.

The rescue team placed themselves in harms way while working inside of this weakened structure. Their tireless efforts resulted in the successful rescue of this earthquake victim. ❖

Bronze Medal of Valor

On May 11, 1999, Technician Kurt A. Hoffman and his 15-month-old son, were traveling east on Route 29 near Fairfax City.

Technician Hoffman witnessed a vehicle crash involving a Fairfax County government vehicle and a stake body truck at the intersection of Lee Highway and Village Drive. After parking his personal vehicle off the road, he proceeded to the scene to check for injuries. It was obvious that both vehicles had sustained significant damage. The driver of the county vehicle assured him he was not injured so Technician Hoffman instructed him to call 911 on his company radio. The worker was unable to call because the radio was damaged in the crash. Technician Hoffman acknowledged this and proceeded to the striking vehicle to assess the injuries to the driver. As he approached, he noticed no one behind the wheel.



**Technician
Kurt A. Hoffman**

Upon opening the driver's door, he found a male patient slumped over the bench seat unresponsive and not breathing.

Technician Hoffman first stabilized the vehicle by setting the emergency brake and turning off the ignition. He then stabilized the cervical spine and maintained the patient's airway with the jaw thrust maneuver. While performing these lifesaving measures, he asked a passing motorist for someone to call 911. A motorist stopped and Technician Hoffman advised them of the situation and what equipment was needed.

While Technician Hoffman continued to provide care to the patient, he noticed a strong, familiar odor inside the truck. The patient, who was semiconscious at this point, stated that he was carrying five 400-pound propane bottles. One of the bottles sustained damage in the crash and was leaking. A Fairfax County Police Officer arrived at the scene and inquired as to what assistance was needed. Technician Hoffman asked the officer to confirm that 911 had been called and to check on his child, who was secured in his personal vehicle. The police officer checked and then stayed with the child.

Upon arrival of Fire and Rescue Department personnel, Technician Hoffman calmly and precisely relayed information about the patient, and the immediate need to remove the patient because of the propane leak. Technician Hoffman continued to provide patient care and assist the on-duty emergency personnel with the removal of the patient. During this time a hazardous materials response was initiated, causing him and his son to be detained for an hour until the incident was declared safe.

Technician Hoffman placed himself at great personal risk by approaching a serious motor vehicle crash without the aid of protective clothing and equipment. His quick judgement and professionalism in taking control of the scene and providing initial patient care allowed on-scene emergency personnel to quickly mitigate the situation. His desire to help a fellow human being, along with his instinctive actions is exemplary. ❖

Bronze Medal of Valor

As a result of their combined actions during a three-alarm garden apartment fire in Alexandria, Captain I Vincent R. McGregor, Technician William M. Best and Firefighter Joseph M. Laun are to be credited with preventing serious injury, even the possible death of fellow firefighter, Lieutenant Steve Clark.

Dispatched as a four-person crew, Engine 410 encountered heavy fire conditions upon arrival at the incident scene. Fire was venting from the windows in the rear of the structure. The crew was assigned to proceed to the second floor with the task of pulling ceilings and attacking the fire in the attic from below. As they

carried out this assignment, the floor, weakened by fire, began to collapse. These conditions caused Lieutenant Clark to fall partially through the floor, trapping him at the waist. Technician Best attempted to assist Lieutenant Clark, and with the ensuing effort, became trapped himself. Although realizing his own imminent danger, Technician Best continued to hold on to Lieutenant Clark in an effort to prevent him from falling to the floor below. Recognizing the deteriorating floor conditions, Captain McGregor spread his weight across a bed and attempted to assist both crewmembers. Unaware of the heroic efforts taking place, firefighters operating in the apartment below withdrew when they noticed



**Captain I
Vincent McGregor**



**Technician
William B. Best**



**Firefighter
Joseph M. Laun**

Certificate of Valor

the ceiling collapsing. Shortly thereafter, all three firefighters descended through the floor, falling to the apartment below that was charged with smoke and smoldering fire. Retreating to a safe area of the collapsed room, Firefighter Laun remained above his crew, directing a hose stream around them to reduce the high heat conditions.

Trapped beneath furniture and not aware of the status of his crew, Lieutenant Clark was unable to initiate a call for help on his portable radio. Freeing themselves from the debris, Captain McGregor and Technician Best located Lieutenant Clark and summoned for help from firefighters outside the building. Amazingly, there were no injuries.

It is important to note that the firefighting efforts of this crew were instrumental in controlling the rapid spread of fire, preventing further extension in the apartment building and adjoining structures.

During the course of completing their assignment, the personnel of Engine 410 bravely encountered a life-threatening situation. These firefighters remained calm and disciplined, helping them survive this life-threatening situation.

The teamwork displayed by Captain I Vincent R. McGregor, Technician William M. Best and Firefighter Joseph M. Laun are exemplary. These three nominees demonstrated the very best in fire service tradition and ideals. ♦

Certificate of Valor

While traveling on Route 610 in Stafford County on the evening of August 13, 1999, Lieutenant Robert E. Wheeler encountered an automobile crash involving two vehicles.

Pulling to the side of the road and assessing the incident scene, he realized extensive damage to both cars which



**Lieutenant
Robert E. Wheeler**

meant serious injuries were likely. A Ford Mustang had sustained significant front-end damage, while a Ford Explorer had rolled over and came to rest on its side.

After being assured by onlookers that 911 had been called, Lieutenant Wheeler began assessing the occupants of the vehicles.

He approached the vehicle and found a teenage male unconscious, unresponsive and not breathing. He immediately stabilized the patient's cervical spine and opened his airway; lifesaving actions that enabled the patient to begin breathing on his own. Shortly thereafter, he was relieved by a nurse and proceeded to the second vehicle.

Already realizing the need for special rescue and transporting equipment, Lieutenant Wheeler asked a bystander to call 911 again. He gave the caller instructions to inform the dispatcher that a Fairfax County Paramedic was on the scene treating two severely injured patients. He also requested a heavy rescue squad and two medivac helicopters for transport.

Upon accessing the Explorer, he discovered an adult male trapped in the vehicle with his arm pinned under the wreckage. Lieutenant Wheeler asked a bystander to assist him with lifting the vehicle to free the trapped patient. Once this was accomplished, he entered the Explorer through the rear hatch to assist the injured victim. With a strong odor of gasoline present, Lieutenant Wheeler climbed over broken glass to reach the victim. Once inside, he provided emergency medical care to this patient until arrival of paramedics.

Lieutenant Wheeler continued assisting with the extrication and treatment of both patients until they were loaded into helicopters for transport to Fairfax Hospital.

The lifesaving actions performed by Lieutenant Wheeler during this incident is testimony to his dedication and selfless nature in helping his fellow man. Under dangerous circumstances, and with no safety gear or first aid equipment, he orchestrated the positive outcome of a critical situation. ♦

Lifesaving Award

On April 19, 1998

Lieutenant Paul A. Masiello was attending a family get-together in Winchester, Virginia, hosted by his family. There were about 30 people at this gathering, including his sister-in-law's mother. While they were enjoying the event, his sister-in-law's mother, who has a history of heart problems, suddenly collapsed. Witnessing this, Lieutenant Masiello instinctively rushed to her side and determined that she was not breathing and had no pulse. During the next few moments, he acted professionally and skillfully, taking control of the situation, thus ensuring calm among the attending friends and family. With the assistance of his sister Lois Masiello, he initiated cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and instructed others to call emergency crews. Throughout the event, Lieutenant Masiello continued performing CPR until the arrival of paramedics. He further assisted the emergency personnel on their arrival, enabling them to rapidly initiate cardiac defibrillation, resulting in the successful restoration of the patient's heartbeat.

Paul's expertise and control of this emergency event enabled him to keep family members calm during a highly emotional and stressful situation. The paramedics, as well as the doctors at the hospital, credited Lieutenant Masiello's quick action and knowledge for saving a life. The family is very thankful for Paul's actions that day. ♦



**Lieutenant
Paul A. Masiello**

Lifesaving Award

On Saturday January 23, 1999, Firefighter Barry J. Rathbone was traveling home from his sister's home in Amisville, Virginia when he came upon a two-vehicle wreck. The crash involved a minivan that had broadsided or "T-boned" a compact car. It was obvious that both vehicles had sustained significant damage. He proceeded to make a safe and quick assessment of injuries to the occupants. There was significant damage to the steering column and the windshield of the minivan, indicating the driver may not have been properly restrained. The driver of the minivan was a middle-aged male who was complaining of pain in his abdomen and chest. He was also experiencing shortness of breath. The other vehicle operator was a middle-aged female who was wearing a seatbelt. The female driver complained of pain in her right forearm and a swollen right eye sustained from the airbag deploying. A motorist stopped and Firefighter Rathbone requested they call 911. He was handed the telephone so he could relay pertinent information to the dispatcher. He advised the dispatcher of the crash location, patient condition, and asked for the services of a paramedic. Because of the injuries sustained by the unbelted patient, Firefighter Rathbone recommended a helicopter transport the patient to the hospital. While waiting for rescue personnel to arrive, Firefighter Rathbone maintained the patient's airway and cervical spine to prevent additional injury.

Firefighter Barry J. Rathbone, without protective gear or equipment, stopped at a vehicle crash to provide assistance to strangers in need. Throughout the incident, Firefighter Rathbone demonstrated professionalism and dedication to serving others, which is in keeping with the highest tradition of the Fire and Rescue Department. ♦



**Technician
Barry J. Rathbone**

Thirty Years of Service



Captain II Gary W. Winemiller (center) is presented with his thirty-year plaque by Supervisor Elaine McConnell, Springfield District (left) and Chief Edward Stinnette (far right).



Lieutenant Robert B. Roubo and his wife, Barbara, proudly display the thirty-year plaque that was presented to Lieutenant Roubo at Fire and Rescue Station 36.

A History: Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department

By Andrew Eastman, President

Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department

For 58 years the Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department and Ladies Auxiliary has served the citizens of the greater Tysons Corner area from its home on Gallows Road. While the community of Dunn Loring has been absorbed by the growth of Vienna, Tysons Corner, Falls Church, and Merrifield, the need for quality emergency services has only expanded.

Positioned conveniently between I-495, I-66, and the Dulles Toll Road, the accessibility of the area has created a thriving business center and entrance to the Northern Virginia high-technology corridor. With ease of access has come increased population, traffic flow, and non-stop building construction. All combined, it has created one of the biggest target hazards in Fairfax County.

Founded in 1942 by Merle Clifford and fifteen associates, the Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire Department was initially sponsored by the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. By 1947, the members of Dunn Loring were able to secure two pumpers and build a fire station, thereby meeting the requirements to become an independent fire department in Fairfax County. The first fire station was built in 1943 on a parcel of land donated by G. Albert Merry. Today's Station 13, built in 1968 and renovated in 1988, stands on the same property as the original structure.

Over the past 58 years, much has changed at Dunn Loring, especially the call volume. In December 1944, the first report of total calls run by the volunteers of Dunn Loring came in at 50. An average of seven firefighters responded to each call, and the average volunteer put in 250 hours of service a year. In 1999, the call volume was almost 4,600 and the average volunteer donates 450 hours of service to the department.

The complement of apparatus has remained nearly unchanged since the early days. Dunn Loring has continuously maintained two pumpers and two ambulances for 50 years. In 1969, a jeep and a County-owned ladder truck (later moved to Station 30) were added, and in 1980 the County moved a light unit to Dunn Loring from Station 29. The first canteen began operations out of Station 13 in 1964. Since 1942, the Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire Department has purchased 49 pieces of apparatus costing in excess of one million dollars.

In a proud tradition of supporting Fairfax County in its emergency services mission, Dunn Loring has generated over 50 volunteer firefighters that have gone on to join the career ranks of Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department and other fine municipal departments. Included in this distinguished list are three fire chiefs: Chief Glenn Gaines (Fairfax County, retired), Chief Edward Plaugher (Arlington County), and Chief Carl Plaugher, Jr. (Savannah, Georgia).

The volunteer membership of Dunn Loring continues to thrive with 69 active members contributing over 29,000 hours of operational and administrative service in 1999, and raising over \$500,000 annually to purchase apparatus and equipment, meet mortgage payments, maintain the physical plant, and cover the costs of running a non-profit corporation. Combined with arguably some of the best career firefighters and officers in Fairfax County, the Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department is prepared to respond to any emergency that lies ahead. ❖

Smoke Detectors: A Proactive Program

By Lieutenant Mark D. Stone

Public Information and Life Safety Education

In calendar year 2000, Fairfax County has experienced four fire fatalities. While these tragedies occurred in two separate incidents, they share unfortunate similarities. In both cases, the residence was a mobile home, well involved with fire and smoke. Also, in both cases, investigators determined that smoke detectors were present . . . *without batteries!*

We will never know if a properly operating smoke detector would have provided early warning to the residents of these homes. Since these fatalities, however, our Department has fought a multitude of residential fires in occupied dwellings. In all of these fires, the occupants escaped unharmed. Many were alerted by smoke detectors.

Community outreach programs exist in our Department that are intended to prevent injury and loss of life from fire. Two of these programs, Operation FireSafe and Battery for Life, are specifically designed for residential occupants. Used together, these programs help ensure that citizens have adequate and properly operating smoke detectors in their homes.

As with any successful community outreach initiative, educating the public and affecting a change in "behavior" is the desired outcome. To do this, we must provide them with the knowledge (tell them what to do), skills (show them how to do it) and most importantly, the consequences (tell them why) and how it relates to fire safety and burn prevention.

Listed below are program overviews for both Operation FireSafe and Battery for Life. The success of these programs, and others, are directly related to the time, energy and attitude put forth by each and every firefighter.

Operation FireSafe

Administration: Station personnel facilitate the

program. The Public Information and Life Safety Education Section (PIO/LSE) provides administrative and logistical support and guidance to field personnel. The PIO/LSE Section designs, maintains, and distributes program-related materials, literature and handouts.

Description: Operation FireSafe provides courtesy home fire-safety inspections to citizens in Fairfax County. Hazards are identified and corrective actions are recommended by firefighters. The location and condition of smoke detectors is determined during the inspection and the occupant is advised of the proper steps to follow to ensure that the residence is adequately protected. Free smoke detectors are provided and installation is completed by firefighters, if requested.

Procedure: Station personnel receive Operation FireSafe requests in several ways. Residents may call the stations directly or the PIO/LSE Section may forward the request. Additionally, neighborhood checks can be performed as a community outreach initiative.

1. Schedule the inspection with the homeowner/occupant.
2. Receive materials from the PIO/LSE Section.
3. Forward the completed form(s) to the PIO/LSE Section.

Materials:

- Smoke detectors (battery operated)
- Operation FireSafe forms
- Educational brochures: It's the Law, EDITH, Fire Prevention All Over Your Home, etc. (Multi-lingual brochures are available upon request.)
- Calendar stickers, magnets, and other handouts (if available).

Contact: Public Information and Life Safety Education Section at 246-3801.

Battery for Life

Administration: Station personnel facilitate the program. The PIO/LSE Section provides support by supplying batteries, literature and handouts, and maintaining the database.

Procedure: Station personnel receive Battery for Life requests in several ways. Residents may call the stations directly or the PIO/LSE Section may forward the request. Additionally, neighborhood checks can be performed as a community outreach.

1. Schedule the inspection with the homeowner/occupant.
2. Receive materials from the PIO/LSE Section.
3. Forward the completed form(s) to the PIO/LSE Section.

Materials:

- Batteries (9 volt)
- Battery for Life form
- Educational brochures: Battery for Life, etc.
- Calendar stickers and other handouts as available

Contact: Public Information and Life Safety Education Section at 246-3801.

As firefighters and paramedics, our duties as professionals go well beyond the mitigation of emergency incidents. In order to obtain and hold the trust and support of the citizens of Fairfax County, it is essential that we maintain contact with the community and build positively on our reputation as caring public servants.

Our Department participates in dozens of community outreach initiatives throughout the year, ranging from smoke detector checks to child safety seats. Clearly, as firefighters, our main focus should be placed on initiatives intended to prevent fires and burn injuries. However, regardless of the cause you choose, gear up and attack it with the same tenacious spirit and drive that makes you what you are . . . a firefighter! ❖



Operation FireSafe gets a timely donation. Lowes Home Improvement Warehouse donated 1,000 smoke detectors through its Beacon Mall store on Richmond Highway. Flanked by Station 11 personnel and Lowes employees, Chief Edward Stinnette thanks Robert Rawlings, store manager.



Firefighter Cliff Allen, Station 11, B-Shift, explains the proper use of a smoke detector to a Woody Hills mobile home park resident. The community was the scene of a triple fire fatality on January 6, 2000.



Less than two months after a New Year's morning fatal fire on Woodpecker Way in Mount Vernon, this mobile home, in the same neighborhood, was a total fire loss. The occupants escaped unharmed alerted by a smoke detector. Ironically, Station 9, C-Shift personnel had given the detector to the residents during the Operation FireSafe initiative just weeks prior to the incident.

Public Safety Occupational Health Center Reopens and Gets New Look

By Sandra S. Witt
Occupational Health and Safety Division

By now, most of you have been to the new Public Safety Occupational Health Center (PSOHC) located adjacent to the Public Safety Center in the Massey Building. However, unless you have been to the PSOHC lately, you most likely are not aware of the completed expansion project. The PSOHC got a new look for the millennium, officially opening the doors of the expanded section on January 3, 2000.

The PSOHC is part of the Occupational Health and Safety Division (OHSD) of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. A primary mission of the (OHSD) is to protect the health, well-being and safety of firefighters, while ensuring these same members are physically and mentally able to carry out their public safety and related duties.

The PSOHC is the primary vehicle through which the medical services of the OHSD are delivered. The provision of services for Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department professional and volunteer personnel was the original focus of the Occupational Health Center when it opened in May 1997. The PSOHC is staffed by talented and well-trained contract medical professionals.

In January of 1998, the contract expanded to include services to uniformed Fairfax County police and sheriffs. Beginning in August of 1998, the OHC officially expanded its onsite services to include having police and sheriffs all under one roof.

The OHC officially became the PSOHC and began to seek additional space to accommodate the increase in public safety employees.

During the month of December 1999, the OHSD and PSOHC staff members coordinated the final completion of the PSOHC expansion project. This included completing final building

and fire inspections, moving furniture and files, and installing equipment. The expanded PSOHC unit officially opened on January 3, 2000, with no interruption in client service. The increased amount of available space will help alleviate the overcrowding and will significantly increase the amount of patients seen by the center.

Services provided by the PSOHC include assessing the mental and physical health of applicants, periodic assessment of the health and well-being of incumbent employees, surveillance of incumbents for exposure to toxic agents and/or infectious diseases, and monitoring of personnel for early detection and prevention of job-related illness and injury.

PSOHC Services

- Fire and Rescue Department, Police (Fairfax County, Herndon and Vienna) and Sheriff pre-employment physicals
- Fire and Rescue Department, Police (Fairfax County, Herndon and Vienna) and Sheriff annual medical evaluations
- Fire and Rescue Department Volunteer Medical evaluations
- Fire and Rescue Department Volunteer pre-service evaluations
- Clinical consults
- Immunizations (Tetanus/Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Polio, MMR, Varicella Zoster, Influenza, Pneumovax)
- Infectious Disease screening
- Periodic health assessments
- Separation examinations
- Return to work/Fitness for duty evaluations
- Respiratory protection medical clearance

- Neuromuscular evaluations
- Routine screenings
- Respirator Fit Testing
- Return to work evaluations
- Fitness assessments and work hardening
- Smoking cessation assistance

There are many benefits to Public Safety employees for having their own occupational health center. Since one of the primary goals of the PSOHC is to maintain a healthy work force and minimize occupational injuries, the PSOHC conducts all medical and fitness related testing in one centralized facility and provides a comprehensive report to the employee regarding their state of health and fitness. Public Safety employees in the Massey complex and/or on restricted duty assignments may use the convenience of the PSOHC for their employment-related health needs.

One of the greatest benefits is that these services are provided by medical professionals who are familiar with the duties, working conditions, and mental and physical demands of the job. The staff members of the PSOHC have remained relatively unchanged since the original opening in 1997 and are committed to their work with public safety employees.

The nurses from the PSOHC also take their work on the road with them and make regular visits to the FRD Training Academy and the Criminal Justice Academy to ensure that immunizations are administered to new fire and police recruits. PSOHC staff members receive regular monthly in-service training on public safety relevant topics such as respiratory fit testing, pulmonary function testing, and the Life Pak II defibrillator. Additionally, all clinical staff are ACLS certified.

The staff of the PSOHC are clearly part of the Public Safety family and understand the specific needs of those who work in the public safety field. Under the leadership of Dr. Donald Stewart, the PSOHC is staffed by a team of professional doctors, including Dr. Praveen Gupta, Dr. Martin Rosenthal and Dr. Michael

Ardez. Marion Maclin, R.N. heads a team of full-time and part-time nurses and an x-ray technician. Additionally, the PSOHC is staffed with administrative support personnel who handle scheduling appointments, correspondence, medical records, MEDGATE



Public Safety Occupational Health Center medical staff from left to right: Marion Maclin, Dr. Praveen Gupta, Dr. Donald Stewart, and Dr. Martin Rosenthal.

implementation and other support functions.

Dr. Stewart, M.D. has been the medical director of the PSOHC for nearly three years. He is a native of the Midwest. He attended college at Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas. Dr. Stewart was then awarded his Medical Degree from the University of Kansas in 1980, and following a Surgical Internship, completed an Aerospace Medicine Residency at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. In addition to his medical degree, Dr. Stewart completed a Masters Degree in Aerospace Science.

Following his training, Dr. Stewart was employed for 11 years in the United States Space Program, holding different positions in NASA pertaining to crew health and medical operations. His final assignment with NASA was that of Manager, Aerospace Medicine Office at NASA Headquarters, Washington, D.C. In this job he supervised a group of 150 employees providing operational medical support for the United States Space Program. Additionally, Dr. Stewart has

had considerable experience in the past 15 years working in emergency medicine and urgent care.

Dr. Gupta, M.D. was born in India and brought up in Nigeria, West Africa. He received his medical degree from the University of Benin, Nigeria in 1987. In 1989, he moved to the U.K. for more postgraduate training.

Dr. Gupta finally moved to the United States in 1992, and completed his residency in internal medicine at Howard University Hospital, Washington, D.C.

He was board certified in internal medicine in 1996. Dr. Gupta joined a family practice after completing his residency and later joined the PSOHC in April of 1997 as a staff physician.

Dr. Rosenthal, M.D., J.D., received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1968 from Johns Hopkins University and his Doctor of Medicine Degree from the University of Maryland School of Medicine in 1972. He completed a rotating internship in the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and an internal Medicine Residency at Maryland General Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland in 1978. Dr. Rosenthal has practiced medicine in both an emergency room setting and in a family practice setting. While at Kaiser Permanente, Dr. Rosenthal was Physician-In-Chief of the Kaiser Landover Medical Center and sat on the Board of Directors of the Mid-Atlantic Permanente Medical Group.

Dr. Rosenthal also holds a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Maryland School of Law and he is a member of the Maryland Bar. In addition to his board certification in internal medicine, Dr. Rosenthal is also board certified in legal medicine. He is a member of the American College of Physicians and a fellow of the American College of Legal Medicine.

Marion Maclin of Massachusetts is a graduate of University of Massachusetts with a B.S.N. After two years as a Navy nurse caring for returning Vietnam veterans, she spent three years at the Cambridge Visiting Nurses Association as a supervisor providing home care in the community.

After raising two daughters, she returned to

nursing in 1991 in a challenging family practice setting. In 1997, she joined the PSOHC during the start up of the clinic as the Nursing Administrator. Marion states that it has been a great joy to be involved in the opening and successful operation of this unique clinic.

The PSOHC will host an open house on Wednesday April 12, 2000. We welcome and offer employees and other interested organizations the opportunity to tour the health center, visit, and participate in health screening activities. ❖

Public Safety Occupational Health CenterHours

Monday	7 a. m. – 8 p. m.
Tuesday	7 a. m. – 8 p. m.
Wednesday	7 a. m. – 4 p. m.
Thursday	7 a. m. – 8 p. m.
Friday	7 a. m. – 4 p. m.
Saturday	8 a. m. – 12 p. m.

Public Safety Occupational Health Center (703) 246-4949



The Public Safety Occupational Health Center expands and gets a new look. Personnel involved in the construction project are from left to right: Suzanne Reynolds, Facilities Planner, Department of Public Works & Environmental Services (DPW&ES); Sharon Arndt, Program Manager of the Occupational Health and Safety Division; unidentified contract electrician, Fred Lester, Project Manager, DPW&ES; and Lieutenant Patrick Morrison, Fitness Coordinator, Occupational Health and Safety Division.

What Are the “Big Rocks” In Your Life?

(Editor’s Note: This article is reprinted from the Sedona, Arizona, Fire and Rescue Department newsletter.)

Someone left a copy of the following story on Chief Drake’s desk. He thanks whoever left it and found it to be one worth re-telling.

One day, an expert in time management was speaking to a group of business students and, to drive home a point, used an illustration those students will never forget.

As he stood in front of the group of high-powered overachievers, he said, “Okay, time for a quiz.” He then pulled out a one-gallon wide-mouth mason jar and set it on the table in front of him. Then he produced about a dozen fist-sized rocks and carefully placed them, one by one into the jar. When the jar was filled to the top and no more rocks would fit inside, he asked, “Is this jar full?”

Everyone in the class said, “Yes.”

Then he said, “Really?” He reached under the table and pulled out a bucket of gravel. Then he dumped some gravel in and shook the jar, causing pieces of gravel to work themselves down into the space between the big rocks. Then he asked the group once more: “Is this jar full?”

By this time, the class was on to him. “Probably not,” one of them answered.

“Good!” he replied. He reached under the table and brought out a bucket of sand. He started dumping the sand into the jar and it went into all of the spaces left between the rocks and the gravel. Once more, he asked the question, “Is this jar full?”

“No!” the class shouted. Once again, he said, “Good!” Then he grabbed a pitcher of water and began to pour it in until the jar was filled to the brim. Then the expert in time-management looked at the class and asked, “What is the point of this illustration?”

One eager beaver raised his hand and said, “The point is, no matter how full your schedule is, if you try really hard you can always fit some more things in it.”

“No,” the speaker replied, “that’s not the point.” The truth this illustration teaches us is this: If you don’t put the big rocks in first, you’ll never get them in at all.

What are the big rocks in your life? Your children? Your loved ones? Your education? Your dreams? A worthy cause?

Teaching or mentoring others?

Doing things that you love? Time for yourself? Your health? Your significant other? Remember to put these **BIG ROCKS in first**, or you’ll never get them in at all.

If you get hung up on the little stuff (i.e., the gravel, the sand), you’ll fill your life with little things you worry about that don’t really matter, and you’ll never have the real quality time you need to spend on the big, important stuff (the big rocks). So, tonight, or in the morning, when you are reflecting on this short story, ask yourself this question: “What are the ‘big rocks’ in my life?” **Then, put those in your jar first.** ❖



Hot Shots



A newly poured concrete floor section collapsed at this construction site injuring one female worker. The incident was directly across the street from Station 29 in Tyson's Corner.



A mid-afternoon fire at 3004 Graham Road on Saturday, January 22 started in the garage and extended to the attic. Damage was estimated at \$50,000.



This mobile home fire at 7957 Woodpecker Way proved fatal to a 27-year-old woman. The fire was caused by an unattended candle.



On January 7, 2000, a three-alarm garden apartment fire at 3934 Persimmon Drive displaced several families. Fog streams were used during overhaul to ventilate the apartment.



This house under construction, located at 12936 Cedar Glen Lane, sustained \$200,000 in damage. Photo by Captain I Steven I. Weissman.



First arriving units had heavy fire showing at 898 Golden Arrow Street in Great Falls. The mid-afternoon fire on February 9 quickly extended to the second floor and attic. Extensive overhaul of the custom cedar home was completed after locating and extinguishing hot spots. Damage was estimated at \$400,000. Photo by Captain I Steven I. Weissman



Firefighters extricate a seriously injured patient from this vehicle crash at Route 28 and Willard Road. Photo by Captain I Steven I. Weissman.



Firefighters inspect damage from a two-alarm fire at 7833 Winona Court in Annandale.

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's Urban Search and Rescue Program History

*By Battalion Chief Dewey H. Perks
Urban Search and Rescue Program Manager*

Following the devastating 1985 earthquake in Mexico City, the United States Agency for International Development/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA) convened a meeting of national and international experts to study the development of technical rescue for international response. This initial meeting spawned the concept of permitting USAID/OFDA to offer heavy rescue as a form of its humanitarian relief delivery following the collapse of reinforced concrete buildings in an international urban setting. This meeting also set the stage for the development of what has now become known as Urban Search and Rescue.

History was made in 1988 when the former Soviet Union accepted resources from the United States to assist in rescue operations in Armenia after a deadly earthquake. The USAID/OFDA quickly assembled a combined team of rescuers from Miami-Dade, Florida, Fairfax County,

Virginia, and deployed them within hours of the request. Operating under severe conditions in a cold winter environment, the team rescued two people. Poorly-prepared for this first mission, the team survived by using summer-weight tents, along with clothing and sleeping bags purchased locally just prior to departure. Working with only basic tools and limited experience, the team was able to safely operate in a challenging environment and still make a difference for the people of Armenia.

The USAID/OFDA again called on Miami-Dade, Florida, and Fairfax County, Virginia, to assemble a team for deployment to the Philippines to assist with rescue operations following an earthquake in 1990. Using the lessons learned from the Armenian mission, the team rescued one victim and assisted local rescuers with the extrication of two others.

As the USAR concept continued to evolve, USAID/OFDA conducted a workshop for



VATF-1's deployment to Soviet Armenia earthquake on December 10, 1988.



VATF-1 members dig out a survivor during their deployment to the Philippines earthquake on July 16, 1990.

international search and rescue leaders with the intention of formalizing international deployments. The International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) also evolved from this workshop.

Virginia Task Force One eventually evolved into a team consisting of nearly 140 volunteer and career members of the Department and a cache of nearly 30 tons. Recognized around the world, the team is deployed first and foremost as a representative of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, with either USAID/OFDA or FEMA as a partner in the mission. On site, the team operates under the principles of incident command and is divided internally into three functions – management, operations, and logistics. The team deploys two-deep in each position allowing it to operate continuously in the field; using specially trained canines and sophisticated listening and search devices; heavy tools for breaking, breaching and lifting concrete; providing definitive medical care delivery; as well as structure assessment; communications; and hazardous materials detection and defense.

Since 1998, USAID/OFDA has deployed the task force four times, Nairobi, Kenya, (1998), Izmit, Turkey, (1999), Taiwan (1999), and Düzce, Turkey, (1999). While all the missions were similar, Kenya again showed the aftereffects of terrorism, while the Turkey and Taiwan missions reminded all involved of the massive destruction that can occur from an earthquake. Each mission was different because of the weather variances (from sub-freezing to tropical to above 100 degrees Fahrenheit), the task assigned, and the collapse patterns seen. During the Turkey and Taiwan missions, the team was fortunate enough to affect five live rescues, as well as the delivery of humanitarian relief such as sheltering, food and water distribution, medical care, and structure assessments of the remaining buildings that were usually unstable.

The task force is based on several partnerships. The first is between USAID and FEMA for our national and international missions, the second between the Department and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and the third between the members and their



VATF-1 was one of several FEMA sponsored USAR teams who deployed to the Oklahoma City Alfred P. Murrah Building bombing on April 19, 1995.

families. The fourth partnership is the most important – it is between the task force and those who stay behind while it deploys. This partnership represents the strength of the Department and remains the most important facet since it recognizes the men and women who ensure the safety of the citizens and guests of Fairfax County, 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week. This is what makes the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department so unique and why the members of these two specialty teams are so proud to be considered a small part of the greatest Department in the world.

(Editor's Note: The growth of each of these Department specialty teams is the result of the hard work of many people including founders Jim Strickland, Mike Tamillow, Dan Bickham, Chuck Jarrell, Andy Hubert, Don Booth, Robert Rhea, and John Carr. These members ensured during the early phases that goals were met, training was performed, and experience was equally gained and shared. Taking a lesson from the Department, the groups have always used sound team building principles in their actions, realizing that any success gained is due to everyone's involvement. The principles developed by its founders have instilled a sense of pride and dedication that is continued by each member today.) ♦

**Always focus on what is
right – not who is right.**

Large Loss Fire Investigations

Date: 01/07/00 **Box:** 2316 **Address:** 3939 Persimmon Drive **Type:** Apartment
Cause: Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$1,440,000 **Loss:** \$500,000 **Status:** Closed

Date: 01/15/00 **Box:** 1700 **Address:** 6033 Sunset Ridge Court **Type:** Townhouse
Cause: Accidental-Chimney **Value:** \$408,479 **Loss:** \$82,000 **Status:** Closed

Date: 01/20/00 **Box:** 1196 **Address:** 6621 Wakefield Drive **Type:** Condo
Cause: Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$30,000,000 **Loss:** \$75,000 **Status:** Closed

Date: 01/20/00 **Box:** 1506 **Address:** 15121 Phillip Lee Road **Type:** House
Cause: Accidental-Chimney **Value:** \$200,000 **Loss:** \$60,000 **Status:** Closed

Date: 01/22/00 **Box:** 1800 **Address:** 3004 Graham Road **Type:** House
Cause: Accidental-Combustibles **Value:** \$235,000 **Loss:** \$50,000 **Status:** Closed

Date: 01/24/00 **Box:** 0814 **Address:** 7833 Winona Cout **Type:** Townhouse
Cause: Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$130,000 **Loss:** \$130,000 **Status:** Closed

Date: 02/07/00 **Box:** 1406 **Address:** 4601 Lawn Court **Type:** House
Cause: Accidental-Matches **Value:** \$250,000 **Loss:** \$80,000 **Status:** Closed

Date: 02/08/00 **Box:** 3602 **Address:** 12936 Cedar Glen Lane **Type:** House
Cause: Under Investigation **Value:** \$560,000 **Loss:** \$200,000 **Status:** Open

Date: 02/09/00 **Box:** 1831 **Address:** 3317 Dauphine Drive **Type:** House
Cause: Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$226,897 **Loss:** \$75,000 **Status:** Closed

Date: 02/09/00 **Box:** 1200 **Address:** 898 Golden Arrow Street **Type:** House
Cause: Under Investigation **Value:** \$400,000 **Loss:** \$400,000 **Status:** Open

Date: 02/14/00 **Box:** 0596 **Address:** 6142 Wellington Commons Drive **Type:** Townhouse
Cause: Accidental-Lightning **Value:** \$200,000 **Loss:** \$80,000 **Status:** Closed

Date: 02/15/00 **Box:** 2213 **Address:** 6004 Hibbling Avenue **Type:** House
Cause: Accidental-Electrical **Value:** \$150,000 **Loss:** \$100,000 **Status:** Closed

Date: 02/20/00 **Box:** 2213 **Address:** 7412 Grace Street **Type:** House
Cause: Accidental-Food on the stove **Value:** \$150,000 **Loss:** \$60,000 **Status:** Closed

Arrests/Petitions

Date: 11/07/99 **Box:** 2708 **Address:** 6432 Old Scotts Court **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** The defendants were charged with setting an outside fire. A trial date is set for March 13, 2000.

Date: 11/07/99 **Box:** 4218 **Address:** 214 Maple Ave. W. **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** The defendants were charged with setting an outside fire capable of spreading. No trial date has been set.

Date: 11/19/99 **Box:** 4205 **Address:** 148 Patrick Street **Type:** Apartment **Narrative:** The defendant was charged with burning a structure. A trial date has been set for February 28, 2000.

Date: 01/01/00 **Box:** 0224 **Address:** 2570 Chain Bridge Road **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** The defendants were charged with burning personal property. A trial date is set for February 24, 2000.

Date: 01/03/00 **Box:** 2708 **Address:** 6253 Rathlin Drive **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** The defendants were charged with setting fire to grasslands. A trial date is set for March 13, 2000.

Date: 01/04/00 **Box:** 1126 **Address:** 3112 Franklin Street **Type:** Outside **Narrative:** The defendants were charged with using illegal fireworks. No trial date has been set.



C-Shift personnel attending OARS on March 14 were willing participants in an exercise depicting a firefighter-in-trouble. Using thermal imaging cameras, they located and rescued the "victim." CBS filmed the event for a special that will air in the spring of 2000.

December 27, 1999

Dear Chief Brown:

My name is Greg Rauch. I'm a FireMedic with the City of Fairfax and assigned to Fire Station 3 on C-Shift.

On the night of December 17, I was working my regular shift when I got a phone call from my wife—she was concerned about a noise and smell that was coming from the basement of our townhouse in Centreville (Box 1700). She was under the impression that our water heater had “blown up.”

As a fellow firefighter, I know that you can appreciate the feeling of frustration that I had about not being home when something like this occurred. After considering a few different options, I called EOC and requested a public service call for E417 (incident # 19993512212).

The crew of E417, (Lieutenant Ruwe, Master Technician Kostecka, Firefighter Mungo and Firefighter Brisky) responded to my home and determined that my furnace motor had burned up. They quickly mitigated the potential hazard and returned to service – but not before sending me several MDT message, advising me of what the problem was and that everybody and everything was OK at my house. They also offered to stay on-scene with my wife and daughter until I was able to get there . . . a pretty nice touch.

I know that public service calls are a routine function of the fire and rescue department, but these men took a few important extra steps to make sure that my family and I were well taken care of.

The purpose of this e-mail is to bring to your attention the good job that these men did and to thank them for their help. I hope that you will pass on my gratitude to their battalion chief, station officer, etc. I would also appreciate it if you could see that my thanks make it to the “kudos” section of the next “Line Copy.”

Thanks again. Best Wishes for the holiday season.

Sincerely,
Greg Rauch
FS03-C

**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

P.O. Box 10900, Fairfax Station Virginia 22039
(703) 323-4500

January 5, 2000

Edward Stinnette, Chief
Fairfax County Fire and Rescue
4100 Chain Bridge Road, 7th Floor
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Dear Chief Stinnette:

I would like to take this opportunity to bring to your attention the professional and dedicated efforts of three personnel assigned to Fire Station #1 for their help in a motor vehicle crash and criminal investigation recently conducted by our agency.

On November 26, 1999, a multiple fatality vehicle crash occurred on Route 267 east, just prior to the Capital Beltway. The vehicle involved failed to negotiate an exit ramp, striking several trees and coming to rest in an obscure location not visible to passing traffic. The vehicle was not discovered until several hours later when one of our Safety Service Patroller's responded to the area on a call about debris. When the patroller arrived, he discovered the vehicle off the road in the woods with two unresponsive passengers. Minutes later, several troopers arrived confirming a double fatality crash.

Fire and rescue personnel arrived shortly thereafter. Since the two passengers were deceased, and the driver was missing and unidentified, a criminal investigation began immediately. To further complicate things, the scene was quickly deteriorating because of high winds and heavy rain. Rescue Squad 401 manned by Lieutenant Domenick Iannelli, and Fire Fighters Brian Reines and Lilly Allen Payton worked side-by-side with the troopers and county officers under very difficult circumstances to assist in any way they could with our investigation.

In addition to the routine duties normally associated with a serious crash, these officers also provided polyvinyl sheeting which was used to make a large umbrella, preventing the destruction of vital evidence from the heavy rain. Using special tools they also removed a section of guardrail containing a bloody hand print which was later used to identify the driver of the car.

At the conclusion of the on-scene investigation, Lieutenant Iannelli arranged for the delivery of heavy tarps which were used to completely cover the car during transport to an evidence recovery location, further preventing the destruction of evidence inside the car.

Generally, after the treatment of injured persons is completed, fire and rescue personnel depart the scene. These officers did not. They continued helping the troopers and police officers until the on-scene investigation was completed several hours later. Their cheerful attitude under difficult circumstances and their willingness to stay involved will not be soon forgotten.

It is always gratifying when multiple agencies respond to an emergency and work so well together to achieve a common goal. The demeanor and professionalism of these fire fighters was most complimentary of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department.

On behalf of the sworn employees of the Department of State Police, please extend a sincere "thank you" to each of these officers for their dedication to duty and most valuable assistance to our department during this investigation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Garrett".

Donald P. Garrett, Captain
Seventh Division Commander



Safe Kids Day May 6, 2000

Participating Fire & Rescue Stations

Station 2 - Vienna

Station 4 - Herndon

Station 13 - Dunn Loring

Station 14 - Burke

Station 15 - Chantilly

Station 16 - Clifton

Station 21 - Fair Oaks

Station 22 - Springfield

Station 24 - Woodlawn

Station 25 - Reston

Station 27 - West Springfield

Station 30 - Merrifield

Station 31 - Fox Mill

Station 37 - Kingstowne

Station 38 - West Centreville

Fire Investigators Probe Pipe Bombing



Battalion Chief Michael T. Reilly (second from left) and Captain II David M. McKernan (third from left) speaks to Channel 9 and the Fairfax Journal regarding the attempted pipe bombing of the Vienna Police Chief's car on January 23, 2000.



The Relay for Life

By Captain II Mark A. Rohr
Fire and Rescue Station 25

Ask yourself this: Have I ever been affected by cancer? Has someone in my family or one of my friends had cancer? Odds are, the answer to both questions is YES.

Without a doubt, this disease seems to strike more of us than any other. With this in mind, firefighters at Fire and Rescue Station 25 and the staff of the Public Information and Life Safety Education Section have decided to get involved in the community and to help in the fight against CANCER.

The RELAY FOR LIFE is a fundraising event sponsored by the American Cancer Society. This event is being held at South Lakes High School in Reston on May 20 and 21, 2000. Teams of 8-15 members keep at least one member on the track, walking or running, from 2 p.m. on the May 20 until approximately 9 a.m. on the May 21. The event begins with a victory lap as cancer survivors lead everyone around the track. The programs gets somber at 9 p.m. when luminaria candles are lit to remember those who have lost their fight to cancer as well as honoring those that have beaten this dreaded disease.

The goal of each team is to raise a minimum of \$2,000. You can help in a couple of ways. We need your

support financially and it would be great to see you there in person. Send donations to team members at Fire and Rescue Station 25, the Public Information and Life Safety Education Section, or Deputy Chief David L. Rohr in the Support Services Division. Checks made payable to the American Cancer Society are preferred. If you hurry, you still have time to form a team for this event. Another relay is being held at Robinson High School on June 10 and 11. Contact Captain II Mark A. Rohr at Fire and Rescue Station 25, A-Shift, or Lieutenant Mark D. Stone in the Public Information and Life Safety Education Section for more information. Check your 30-day boards for details regarding this event. Also, no alcohol or tobacco products are allowed on the site. ♦

Top 10 Activity Report

January - February 2000

Ambulance		Engine Company		Rescue Company	
Unit	Calls	Unit	Calls	Unit	Calls
A 413	337	E 410	493	R 421	226
A 410	323	E 429	466	R 418	216
A 409	303	E 409	453	R 426	204
A 408	300	E 404	451	R 401	181
A 411	294	RE 425*	438	R 414	163
A 414	292	E 408	436	R 411	157
A 430	291	E 413	417	R 419	136
A 434	287	E 411	409		
A 431	280	E 401	408		
A 428	259	E 421	399		
Medic		Ladder Company			
Unit	Calls	Unit	Calls		
M 410	477	T 425	264		
M 418	448	T 429	231		
M 425	434	T 410	220		
M 422	408	T 408	169		
M 426	387	T 411	160		
M 429	375	T 422	154		
M 408	370	T 436	153		
M 409	361	T 405	152		
M 402	356	T 430	145		
M 421	356	T 424	143		

* Total includes rescue and engine calls.

Unit activity is compiled from the event history file. A unit must be dispatched to a call to be included in an event history file. A unit add-on is not considered a dispatch. Mutual aid dispatches are included in the activity report.

99th Recruit School



Front row, left to right: Firefighter David M. Gilmore, Firefighter Gregg John Dojcak, Firefighter In Sung Hwang, Firefighter Jessica Perry Spencer, Firefighter Michael J. Fontana, Firefighter Annette LaGuardia, and Firefighter Thomas A. Zirkle. Middle row, left to right: Firefighter Gregory W. Hunter, Firefighter Gerald P. Nye, Firefighter Adam W. Ashwood, Firefighter Kimberly Ann Larson, Firefighter Sean C. Green, Firefighter Peter Kosenko, and Firefighter Craig Marquis White, Jr. Back row, left to right: Firefighter Eric M. Wyatt, Firefighter Brian J. Bonkoski, Firefighter Eric J. Doffermyre, Firefighter John Evans, Firefighter Matthew J. Brecht, and Firefighter Mickey A. Deans.



Special Needs

Personnel from Fire and Rescue Station 18, A-Shift, re-enact a scenario for the filming of "Children With Special Health Care Needs." As part of a federally funded project to educate EMS providers with handling "special needs" children, project coordinators invited Fairfax County to participate. The show is broadcast monthly via satellite through Virginia State EMSAT.



Retirements

Technician Paul H. Bennett
April 29, 1974 - February 26, 2000

Lieutenant Dennis K. Donehoo
May 30, 1972 - February 25, 2000

Lieutenant James A. Downey
April 12, 1976 - February 10, 2000

Anniversaries

30 Years

Lieutenant Robert B. Roubo
Captain II Gary W. Winemiller

20 Years

Master Technician James E. Clark
Captain II Vernon T. Corbin
Technician Ronald J. Epps
Master Technician David P. Gaber
Captain II Thomas W. Graling
Lieutenant Robert A. Konczal
Technician John M. Lockhart
Technician William E. Teal
Lieutenant Verlon Williamson

10 Years

Firefighter Ronnie O. Carter
Firefighter William F. Kight
Technician Christopher N. Lee

Technician Sheree E. Melton
Lieutenant Natalie D. Robb
Lauretta J. Shertzer,
Programmer Analyst IV
Technician Bonnie J. Tobalske
Lieutenant Jeffrey A. Tolle
Lieutenant Robert L. Vaught
Master Technician Nicholas Weresnick
Firefighter Joseph R. Whalen

5 Years

Firefighter Kyle B. Anderson
Technician Rickie L. Atkins
Howard W. Bailey, Senior Building Inspector
Firefighter Daniel B. Borden
Technician Christopher M. Brown
Theresa J. Carey, Life Safety Education Specialist
Technician Carlos R. Carrillo
Firefighter Joseph K. Cox
Firefighter Ramon M. Estrada
Technician Benjamin C. Hudson
Lieutenant Matthew M. Lopez
Lieutenant Keith M. Ludeman
Firefighter James B. McKendree
Firefighter Brian K. Morton
Technician Emily L. Murphy
Technician Matthew B. Myers
Debra A. Showalter,
Life Safety Education Specialist
Lieutenant Kathleen M. Stanley
Technician Michael W. Whetsell

New Hires

Gary Dove, Automotive Mechanic II
Richard Fogelson, Instructor Specialized Training
Victoria Torres, Secretary I
Timothy Schwarting, Senior Building Inspector
Shamsher Singh, Engineer II

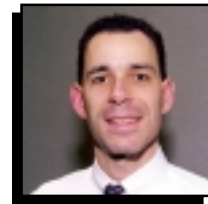
*Line Copy can be viewed on the Fairfax County
Fire and Rescue Department Web Site.
Our Web Site address is:
<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/fire>*



Station Profile

Dunn Loring Fire and Rescue Station #13

Captain II
John A. Burke
Station Commander



Volunteer Chief
Michael Masciola

Station constructed: The original structure was built in 1943 and expanded several times in the 50's and 60's. In 1968, the majority of the existing station was built. In 1988, a major renovation and expansion took place.

Station specialty: Interior structural firefighting and BLS operations.

Square miles in first due area: 5.3

Specific hazardous/target areas: Numerous multi-family and commercial high-rise occupancies. Tysons Corner Mall, and West Falls Church Metro Service and Inspection Yard.

Equipment assigned to station: Engine, ambulance, jeep, light and air, canteen, utility, car, reserve engine, and reserve ambulance.

Total calls in 1999: 4,553

Station personnel: **A-Shift:** Captain II John A. Burke, Master Technician Karl C. Sallberg, Technician Michael L. Sease, II, Technician Marc S. Davidson, Firefighter Dennis M. Kotecki, Firefighter George H. Samartino, and Firefighter Robert L. Reid. **B-Shift:** Captain I Michael A. Lutrario, Technician Timothy L. Nicholson, Technician John R. Brinkerhoff, Firefighter Sean M. Fensterwald, Firefighter Lloyd W. Coburn, III, Firefighter Piers C. Osborne, and Firefighter John A. Smith. **C-Shift:** Captain I Roger T. McGehee, Technician David B. Shelton, Technician Jerold R. Manuel, Technician Michael B. Crowder, Firefighter George Robbins, Firefighter Timothy D. James, and Firefighter John W. Streeter.

Volunteer President: Andrew Eastman

Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department

Attn: Public Information and Life Safety Education Section
4100 Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

U.S. POSTAGE
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Permit No. 45
FAIRFAX, VA
BULK RATE

Return Service Requested